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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0022] on page 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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[0022] in an exemplary embodiment, the spool housing 20 includes a spring loaded tension mechanism 30 adapted to provide a predetermined spring force to the spool of flexible membrane material 26, which is rotatably mounted in the spool housing 20, to permit the spool of flexible membrane material 26 to retract the first predetermined sheet portion of material 26a after use. In the event that the spring loaded tension mechanism 30 fails or in lieu of the spring loaded tension mechanism, the spool housing may be provided with a manual hand cranking mechanism 25 ~~(not shown)~~. The manual hand cranking mechanism 25 may be coupled to the spool of flexible membrane material 26 so that manual rotation of the hand cranking mechanism 25 is transposed to the spool of flexible membrane material 26, which may also permit the spool of flexible membrane material 26 to retract the first predetermined sheet portion 26a of material after use.

Please replace paragraph [0024] on page 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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[0024] The spool of flexible membrane material 26, which is mounted in the spool housing 20, may include a plurality of natural and/or synthetic fabrics, cloths and materials that are constructed to be breathable, or not, depending on the intended application of the equipment storm shield 12. For example, although not specifically shown, if the equipment storm shield 12 is intended to be mounted on equipment, such as a generator, uninterruptible power supply desktop computer systems or other equipment that may require the expulsion

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of heat and or other vapors from time to time, the spool of flexible membrane material may be constructed of a breathable material. Similarly, if the equipment storm shield 12 is intended to be mounted on equipment that may house people, which require oxygen to breathe, the spool of flexible membrane material 26 may also be constructed of a breathable material. In an exemplary embodiment, the spool of flexible membrane material may include a plurality of breathable materials including, but limited to: cloth, canvas, ~~Gortex™~~ and/or other air-permeable but water-impermeable materials such as that sold by W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. under the trademark GORE-TEX. In addition, the spool of flexible membrane material may include Natural or synthetic materials, Knitted or woven materials, which can be coated, chemically treated or laminated with predetermined materials to control air permeability and/or water repellency.

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Please replace paragraph [00~~27~~19] on page ~~3~~6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[00~~27~~19] The base portion 44a of the angle bracket 44 may further include a releasable attachment mechanism 50 adapted to engage and securely retain the first longitudinal edge 28 of the spool of flexible membrane material 26. In an embodiment, the releasable attachment mechanism 50 may include at least one of, but not limited to: hook and loop fasteners such as that sold under the trademark Velcro[[™]][[,]] ~~hook and loop fasteners~~ and snaps. It should be understood that the releasable attachment mechanism 50, as provided above, is provided for exemplary purposes and that there is a plurality of other releasable attachment mechanisms not specifically described herein that may be used in conjunction with the base portion 44a of the angle bracket 44 for retaining the